

REMARKS

The Official Action dated February 26, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in response thereto. Prior to entry of the foregoing amendment claims 1 through 24 were active in the present application. Claims 1 through 12 have been objected to for the reasons set out in section 3 of the present Official Action, but have been indicated as allowable, subject to correction of the errors resulting in the objections recited in the Official Action. Claims 13 through 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101.

The foregoing amendment requests the cancellation of claims 13 through 24. Correction have been made to claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 to address the issues set forth in section 3 of the Official Action. More specifically:

Claim 1 has been amended to correct minor errors.

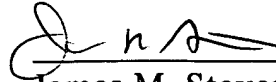
Claim 3 has been amended to replace the phrase “equal ith point” with “equal to the value of the ith point”. The steps (a) and (b) have been renumbered (g)(1) and (g)(2), respectively, to be consistent with claim 1.

Claim 5 has been amended to replace the phrase “performing a the following steps” with “performing the following steps”. The steps (a) through (e) have been renumbered as steps (A) through (B), so as not to be confused with the steps recited in claims 1 and 2. Other changes to correct minor errors have also been made.

Claim 6 has been amended to renumber the recited steps as steps (C)(1) through (C)(3). The phrase “determining the start point and end point of each bin according to the following criteria:” which repeated language contained earlier in the claim, was removed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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